

President Biden's denial of inflation that his policies have created are leading the Nation straight into said recession.

Last week, June's Consumer Price Index score came out and revealed that inflation has soared 9.1 percent. That is right, the largest 12-month increase in over four decades. I kind of believe 9.1 percent might be a lowball number when it gets right down to kitchen-table issues that regular, everyday Americans have to deal with. So even though inflation is up by 9.1 percent, the American people are paying far more for just about everything, such as gas, approximately 44 percent; airline tickets, 33 percent; used cars, 23 percent; hotels, 23 percent; suits, 22 percent; bacon, 18 percent; oranges, 17 percent; tires, 16 percent; furniture, 15 percent; milk, 15 percent; coffee, 14 percent; deliveries, 14 percent; bread, 14 percent; baby food—if you can find it—13 percent; soup, 13 percent; cereal, 12 percent; eggs, 10 percent; dry cleaning, 10 percent; then the rents on their homes and apartments and such, averaging about 30 percent.

And we saw that a little over a year and a half ago, lumber had gone up quadruple. It is coming back, but it is still double of 2 years ago for lumber in order to build homes and build anything else.

So where are we at? These outrageous prices are crushing the American Dream.

Last July, the President claimed that inflation was only transitory; that if we continued down this administration's path, then prices would go down again.

Certainly. Right.

Obviously, that was false.

Now it is the blame game: Putin. The war in Ukraine. Gas stations. Or Republicans. We are not the ones doing the big spending.

Inflation is indeed a tax on all Americans. It is caused by Biden and the House Democrats' out-of-control spending—trillions without accountability.

Small businesses can't afford the increase of input costs across the board. Farmers' fertilizer and all the other things that you would use to grow something, build something, manufacture something, are driven at their core by high energy costs. That is at the base of everything, energy costs.

So workers are effectively—because of all these costs—really seeing their wages cut. Even though they have seen some increases on paper, the higher costs of doing everything is hurting low- and middle-income Americans badly.

What I hear coming out of Sacramento and out of the White House doesn't seem to be helping. It seems to be more focused on a handful of agenda items. The religion of climate change—which, by the way, I will remind you again, carbon dioxide is only 0.04 percent of our atmosphere.

So we have to get back to business and rely on Americans to do business

and produce things domestically. Let's not import all this stuff from China. We don't need their stuff. We can make it here. We can make it efficiently. We can make it more ecologically sound with our energy than it can be done anywhere else in the world.

Madam Speaker, let's put Americans back to work and let's get the government off their backs and out of their wallets.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, call us into Your presence this day, that we, with full abandon, would run into Your loving embrace and receive the plenteous gifts You desire to lavish upon us.

What an image. Your love is so welcoming. Your concern for our welfare so strong, and Your generosity overwhelming. We are humbled by Your grace.

Held in Your everlasting arms, may we find the courage to ask for Your wisdom and guidance, that we would receive; to seek to discern what is good and right, that we may find; and to knock on doors barricaded by doubt and despair, that even these would be opened to us.

O God, You are the source of our every hope, the answer for all we seek, and the treasure we hope to be opened to us. In this knowledge, may our joy be complete.

In Your loving name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. PLASKETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

JOB EXPANSION

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this June, the private sector added 372,000 jobs to the economy, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

I would recognize the leadership of the Biden administration and my Democratic colleagues in Congress for taking swift action to strengthen the economy through robust job expansion.

Since President Biden took office, the economy has added over 9 million jobs, and the unemployment rate has decreased from 6.4 percent to 3.6 percent after losing 3 million jobs during the pandemic.

The price of oil is decreasing due to the leadership of President Biden. Despite high inflation rates, today, we are seeing the strongest economy for American workers in decades. People are receiving higher wages, increased benefits, and better jobs overall.

House Democrats will keep working to develop the labor market, underpin economic progress, and prioritize expanding accessible and inclusive employment opportunities for American people, because that is who we care about.

RECOGNIZING TOM LANIER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a very soothing, informed, and familiar voice in the High Country in North Carolina: Tom Lanier.

On July 23, Tom will be celebrating his 50th year on the air at WATA in Boone—a monumental milestone.

In both Boone and surrounding areas, he is highly regarded as a true staple as he continues his early morning radio program without fanfare. With half a century of serving the High Country, you would be hard-pressed to find someone who does not know of Tom and his commitment to keeping people informed.

Tom, the service you continue to provide to our community is invaluable, and it is a testament to the caliber of person you are.

Congratulations, and here is to many more years on the air.

CELEBRATING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWSRADIO 600 WMT

(Mrs. HINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Newsradio 600 WMT on the upcoming 100th anniversary of the station being on the air.

WMT is a local news staple. The team provides informative coverage on local and national news, as well as insightful and witty on-air shows.

Over the years, WMT has brought on diverse guests from around the country, amplified the voices of Iowans, and shared countless stories with their listeners.

So thank you to the entire team at WMT for all you do to keep Iowans updated, entertained, and in the know.

Congratulations again, and I look forward to WMT's next 100 years on the air.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY JOSEPHINE BIZZARRO

(Mr. OBERNOLTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise this afternoon in celebration of the 100th birthday of a member of my district. Josephine Bizzarro, a resident of the High Desert, turns 100. She is preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Domenick Bizzarro. They are both members of the Greatest Generation.

The Nazis held Domenick Bizzarro as a prisoner of war in Germany, during World War II where he earned a Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts.

His wife, Josephine, was the consummate military spouse whose unwavering commitment to her husband is what saw him through those dark days in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, everyone that knows her celebrates her life as the epitome of what a life well lived should be, and Heather and I join them in wishing Josephine Bizzarro a very happy 100th birthday.

RISING ENERGY COSTS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, one in four Americans can't afford to have their basic needs met now due to high energy costs.

Instead of prioritizing policies that will knock down costs and provide financial relief to the American people, House Democrats are doubling down on their woke environmental policies in this week's spending package.

Far-left spending priorities include a 20 percent increase for the EPA. This comes right after the Supreme Court ruled that the agency is to roll back their overreaching, self-endowed authority.

Also in the package, is taking away the status of biomass from our forests that are on fire all the time—especially this time of year. The biomass would be a renewable resource to help produce electricity, et cetera. They want to take that away. So let the forest burn.

It also further restricts offshore oil and gas activities while increasing oil and gas inspection fees at the same time that President Biden is over there begging the Saudis to send more imported oil to us.

How is this going to help?

Instead, the Biden administration must end the Federal freeze on oil and gas leases, fast-track pending LNG export permits, and expedite approval of all pipeline and energy development.

This will help regular American people with their high costs of doing business and raising their families.

HONORING PATRICK JONES

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a good friend and a remarkable Georgian, Patrick Jones.

Patrick graduated from the University of Georgia in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in risk management. A loving father and devoted husband, he and his wife, Kara, have two children and reside in Blackshear, Georgia, in my First Congressional District.

Patrick spent over three decades of his career working at Flash Foods alongside his brother. Under their leadership, it became one of the largest convenience chains in the Southeast. It was one of the first convenience chains to establish a loyalty program, a proprietary retail pricing platform, and a robust item-level inventory management system.

In 2016, Flash Foods was acquired by CST Brands and subsequently, Circle K. Patrick now serves as the chairman of the board of Primesouth Bank, president of the Jones Company, and President of Walker Jones Automotive Group.

An agent of change, Mr. Jones currently serves on the Department of Transportation's Southern Georgia Citizen's Review Panel, which was created through the Transportation Investment Act. He has previously served on the Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine Operator Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, Patrick Jones has truly made his mark on his community.

IOWA'S COUNTY FAIR SEASON

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, in Iowa, the official start of summer also brings the official start of county fair season.

All 99 counties in Iowa have a county fair that brings together kids, families, 4H, FFA, farmers, and the broader community for their games, fair food, arts and crafts, the showing of livestock, concerts, tractor pulls, and also car races.

The amount of work young people put into raising bottle-to-bucket calf, hogs, horses, chickens, rabbits, sheep, goats, and even llamas is incredible. They take great pride in showing their animals at the fair, and they develop tremendous confidence.

There are also static exhibits, which are arts and crafts. At one of the county fairs, I met Wesley, who was going into the first grade, and he showed his pencil drawings, photographs, cupcakes that he baked, and also his corn for that group. He won 10 blue ribbons at the age of 6.

The fair is such a great opportunity for families to get together and young people to develop the confidence they need to succeed in life. It is a wonderful summer educational opportunity packed with hands-on learning in a fun-filled week.

I encourage everyone to visit a county fair in their own State, and I applaud all of our children's dedication, compassion, and work ethic.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1430

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

DESERT SAGE YOUTH WELLNESS CENTER ACCESS IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 144) to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 144

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act".